

Sir: I am a 16 year resident of the Brinnon area and prior to the closing of bottom fishing in Hood Canal I enjoyed both the bottom fishery as well as the flat fishery. With 7seven grandchildren I was able to provide a wonderful outdoor experience for them when they visited. They were thrilled at the thought of catching any fish and when hooking a sand shark they were very excited. I applaud the Dept. for looking at the possibility of opening some of this fishery again. However I feel it is not going far enough to consider only the limited area of extreme north Hood Canal. This area is quite a boat trip from the main marine access points in the Brinnon area. For those with small boats it could be dangerous as weather in the Canal can change very quickly and returning to the boat ramps could be extremely hazardous. There are certainly many areas further south that should be considered as I know of no reason or data that shows the area say north of Triton Head to have shown problems with dissolved oxygen or other problems. We have had NO fish die offs in the North Canal and in talking to divers in the area it is well known that there is a healthy fish population. I would hope that the Commission would consider not only opening all of North Hood Canal to flat fish but also a limited season for bottom fish. The Brinnon and North Canal area is suffering from economic slow down and having a fishery as this would do wonders for the local economy and those looking for another outdoor opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.

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